



The Toni Times

FROM THE DESK OF
COUNCILMEMBER TONI ATKINS

AUGUST 2007

HOMELESS VETERANS RECEIVE ASSISTANCE AT ANNUAL STAND DOWN

On Saturday, July 14, 2007, I was honored to participate in the 20th Annual Stand Down for homeless veterans sponsored by Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD). In the military, the term “stand down” describes a time for rest and recovery away from combat for exhausted soldiers. For 20 years, VVSD has sponsored a three-day intervention program aimed at giving homeless veterans the help they need to get away from the streets. It is estimated that 4,000 homeless people in San Diego are veterans.

During Stand Down, homeless veterans have access to medical, dental and legal help, as well as clothing, haircuts and numerous other services in one location.

They are also provided with assistance locating housing, jobs and substance abuse resources. Last year, 668 veterans and 147 of their family members participated in Stand Down. I have been fortunate to speak to a number of individuals whose lives have been changed by this program.

I am proud to support the efforts of VVSD and the many other veterans organizations and volunteers who help sponsor this annual event. Their efforts are truly remarkable. If you would like more information or would like to support Stand Down, please contact Darcy Pavich at Veterans Village at 619-497-0142.



(Above left) Councilmember Atkins congratulates the organizers of Stand Down on their 20th Annual event for homeless Veterans. (Above right) Veterans and local supporters enjoy annual event.

BUDGET AGREEMENT PROTECTS SERVICE LEVELS

The City's new "strong mayor/strong council" form of government adopted by voters in 2004 contained several gray areas that required clarification during the current implementation period. The most significant has been where the line lies between the City Council's charter-mandated budgeting authority and the new strong mayor's management prerogatives. This budget authority question has in the past year been a sharp bone of contention between the Mayor and the Council, but a new compromise set to be adopted in conjunction with the City's Appropriations Ordinance promises to be an important first step in resolving this dispute.

The annual budget is adopted by the Council following extensive budget deliberations and public hearings. Most Councilmembers view the budget as a compact between government and residents to provide a certain level of services. In that view, only the Council has authority to cut or eliminate programs and then, only after the public has had an opportunity to express its opinion about a proposed cut.

On the other hand, the Mayor's believes that making decisions to enhance the efficiency of the City are part of his responsibility as chief executive officer. His concern is that having to seek Council approval and public input on even small funding or organizational decisions is unworkable and not what the voters wanted when they voted for the strong mayor system.

Working with the Mayor's Office and the City Attorney, the City Council's Independent Budget Analyst recently developed a proposal that would protect the service levels assumed during the budget

process while also giving the Mayor the flexibility to manage efficiently. Under this proposal, which is expected to receive Council approval, the Mayor would be required to notify the Council of any plan to cut or eliminate a program if it falls within the parameters of a pre-determined set of financial criteria. The criteria are designed to ensure that the Council can weigh-in on significant program cuts, and reject them if desired, without bogging the City down through micromanagement. A key element of this proposal is a system of regular communication between the Mayor and the Council.



Because of inconsistencies in the way departments organize their budgets, there will no doubt be inconsistencies in how this proposal is applied. Nevertheless, it represents a giant leap forward in terms of transparent financial management and preserving the public's role in determining how tax dollars are spent. Additional proposals to put a cumulative cap on the Mayor's budget-cutting authority are also under discussion. In the coming year, each department is expected to conduct an inventory of the services they provide so that those service levels can be memorialized in the Fiscal Year 2009 budget.

In the meantime, the Mayor has promised that despite the elimination of a number of positions at the City, residents will not experience a reduction in service levels. Specifically, he has stated that recreation centers and skate parks will be open the same number of hours as last year, an average of 40-hours per week year-round, and that library hours will remain at their Fiscal Year 2007 levels. If that changes, there will be a system in place for the Council and the public to consider restoring services that have been cut.

CITY TO JOIN LAWSUIT TO PROTECT MEDICAL MARIJUANA PATIENTS

I am pleased to report that my colleagues supported my motion directing the City Attorney to move forward with the City to participate in a lawsuit to oppose the County of San Diego's refusal to enforce a 2003 state law. This state law protects qualified patients from law enforcement action through an identification card program. The program would also help law enforcement distinguish between those in medical need and lawbreakers.

Proposition 215, The Compassionate Use of Marijuana Act, was adopted by California voters in 1996. Fifty-six percent of San Diego voters supported Proposition 215. Hence, the City of San Diego created a Medicinal Marijuana Task Force in 2001, charged with making Prop 215 a reality in the City. In September 2003, at the urging of the Task Force, the Council adopted use and possession guidelines for qualified patients as well as an identification card program designed to assist law enforcement in distinguishing qualified patients

from those engaged in illegal drug activities. At about the same time, a new state law was enacted, which requires county governments to issue identification cards to qualified patients and their caregiver. It also sets cultivation and possession limits and directs county governments to protect patients from arrest in relation to their medicine. Instead of implementing the law, however, the County sued to have state law overturned because it conflicts with federal law.

Fortunately, the County lost its case at the trial level and was directed to implement the law. Although the County appealed this decision, the City plans to file a friend-of-the-court brief asking the appeals court to uphold the lower court decision. The City's arguments will focus on the fact that the health and well-being of city residents is adversely impacted by the County's refusal to implement the state-mandated program.

CRIME PREVENTION MEETING



On July 24th, I co-hosted a public safety meeting with Demetrios Christo and the Adams Avenue Business Association (AABA) at Air Conditioned Lounge. Joining us at the meeting were over 100 residents and businesses concerned about crime issues in the area. Specifically, a horrific shooting that occurred approximately a week earlier. There was a good dialogue with police representatives Lt. John Leas and Community Relations Officer Jim Heppell and the Neighborhood Watch coordinator, Linda Lafond. Issues ranged from lighting, setting up Neighborhood Watch and reporting suspicious activity. A follow-up meeting to discuss the formation of Neighborhood Watch groups in the area is planned for September. I wanted to personally thank Mr. Christo for handing out over 400 flyers in the neighborhood and Stone Wall Citizens Patrol for attending and participating in the

discussion. Also, thanks to Jim Schneider, AABA Executive Director, and his board of directors for their help, and Gary John, the owner of Air Conditioned Lounge, for opening up his business to the community.

2007 PRIDE PARADE

I was joined by four of my City Council colleagues in the LGBT Pride Parade this year, held in Hillcrest and Balboa Park on the weekend of July 21st. Councilmembers Peters, Faulconer, Madaffer, Hueso, and members of their staff walked the entire length of the parade. San Diego Pride, the event organizer, estimated over 150,000 San Diegans and visitors lined the 1+ mile parade route and viewed over 170 parade contingents that included marching bands, community and religious organizations, local businesses and other elected officials. I also wanted to thank Mayor Sanders and Councilmember Donna Frye, Police Chief William Lansdowne, Fire Chief Tracy Jarman and Independent Budget Analyst Andrea Tevlin who were also in the parade. A special thanks to Ron DeHart, Executive Director of San Diego Pride, his staff, the Board of Directors and hundreds of volunteers that worked to create a safe and enjoyable



(Above) Councilmember Toni Atkins enjoys the parade with friends, family and colleagues. Council President Scott Peters and Councilmembers Kevin Faulconer, Jim Madaffer and Ben Hueso and Independent Budget Analyst Andrea Tevlin and several staff and community leaders join in the celebration.

HILLCREST COMMUNITY IDENTIFICATION SIGNS UNVEILED AND SPECIAL CLEAN-UP A SUCCESS

I was joined by members of the Hillcrest Town Council and Hillcrest Association at Fifth & Upas on Thursday, July 26, 2007 to unveil the first of seven community identification signs that mark the entrance to the community of Hillcrest and commemorate its Centennial. The Hillcrest Town Council used the boundaries of the Uptown Community Plan as its guide. The seven signs were installed and celebrated a week later on Tuesday, August 2nd with a cake cutting at the north west corner of 5th and University in front of Union Bank. This location recognizes the approximate site where William Wesley Whitson opened a real estate office in 1907 and started selling land in the immediate area. The Hillcrest Centennial Committee hosted the cake cutting. I presented a resolution to the committee to note the occasion, which has been part of a series of festivities this summer recognizing Hillcrest's first 100 years. For more information please go to www.HillcrestCentennial.com.

A special thanks to the Hillcrest Town Council's Litter and Graffiti Committee in conjunction with over 70 volunteers that gathered on March 14th to sweep the community of Hillcrest. Allied Waste Services donated a dumpster that was used to haul bags of trash and unwanted items from the neighbors. Volunteers found discarded old mattresses, metal scrap and furniture in alleys and hauled them in a pick-up truck that was loaned that day by FlexCar. At the end of the day, an entire dumpster was filled with trash. Thanks again to all of the volunteers who came out to help clean-up and make the streets look nice in advance of the LGBT Pride Parade.

5th ANNUAL NORTH PARK RENAISSANCE AWARDS

The North Park Community Association is taking nominations for the annual Renaissance Awards. This is an opportunity for neighbors to honor members of the community for working to better the neighborhood through property improvement.

The eight categories of the Renaissance Awards this year are Best Landscaping, Best Residential Improvement, Best Commercial Improvement, Best Multi-Unit Improvement, Best Historic Improvement, Best Upscale Restaurant, Best Family Restaurant and Best Overall Community Enhancement. If you have any questions or want to submit your nominations, please contact Michele Brown with the North Park Community Association at mbrowngraser@sbcglobal.net. The deadline to submit your nomination form is September 15, 2007.

OUTDOOR SUMMER FESTIVAL RETURNS

Now that summer has arrived, there's never been a better time to watch an evening movie or a dance performance under the stars. The City Heights Performance Annex is holding their annual Outdoor Summer Arts Festival. It is a wonderful festival of film, dance and live music—reflective of the rich, cultural diversity of City Heights.

All of the events are free to the public and take place at the City Heights Performance Annex located at 3795 Fairmount Avenue. For any questions, please contact the City Heights Performance Annex at (619) 641-6103.

The August schedule is as follows:

Thursday, August 2 at 7:00pm: Movie: *The Pursuit of Happyness*

Friday, August 3 at 6:00pm: International Dance Festival featuring Ballettquette and the Body Art Center in the Philippines and Polynesian dances

Thursday, August 9 at 7:00pm: Movie: *Stomp the Yard*

Friday, August 10 at 6:00pm: International Dance Festival featuring Cambodian dancers of San Diego, Eclectica Dance Theater and Tango Alma

Thursday, August 16 at 7:00pm: Movie: *Déjà vu*

Friday, August 17 at 6:00pm: International Dance Festival featuring Eric Runningpath in Navajo Native dances, Arpana Dance Company in Bharata Natyham dances and the City Ballet performing "La Bayadere"

Thursday, August 23: Movie: *Flushed Away*

Friday, August 24: International Dance Festival featuring DVO Dance Project, Areito Borincano, Bomba Y Plena from Puerto Rico, Eveoke Dance theater youth group and Raks El Anwar Middle Eastern Dance

Thursday, August 30 at 7:00pm: Movie: *Happy Feet*

Friday, August 31 at 6:00pm: International Dance Festival featuring Noche Mexicana with Ballet Folklorico Jalisciense, Mariachi Arriba Mexico, Ballet Folklorico Quetzal and Danza Azteca



CITY RECEIVES GRANT TO RESTORE FLORIDA CANYON



I am pleased to announce that Balboa Park has received a \$73,000 state grant for restoration of Florida Canyon. The Balboa Park Florida Canyon Riparian Restoration Project, will fund the removal of non-native vegetation and trash along a finger of Chollas Creek, which runs through this canyon on the east side of Balboa Park. Currently, invasive plants are crowding out natives that provide food and shelter for insects, birds and animals. This project will allow native vegetation to grow, thus providing habitat where native wildlife can thrive. This grant is from the Habitat Conservation Fund Program administered by the State of California Park and Recreation Department, and will be managed locally by Balboa Park Administration and Park Rangers.

VERMONT STREET BRIDGE BOLLARD PROJECT

Recently, the University Heights community celebrated the completion of the Vermont Street Bridge Bollard project. Originally built in 1916, the Vermont Street Bridge was the first bridge connecting the communities of Hillcrest and University Heights. The bridge shortened the walk between the two neighborhoods and the streetcar lines running along University Avenue. In 1979, the bridge was destroyed due to unsafe conditions. The present modern steel bridge was opened in 1995. Local residents played a major role in shaping the design of the project. City engineers hired the firm Stone Paper Scissors to develop the public art installation at the bridge. The most recent improvement made to the bridge is the addition of the south side bridge bollard. I was pleased to contribute \$5,000 toward this project. With a generous donation from County Supervisor Ron Roberts and the hard work of the University Heights Community Association, the project was completed. I would like to give special thanks to Bret Butler, who volunteered his time to design and construct the bollard; David Lamar with Public Works; Frank Gaines with Engineering and Capital Projects; Lynn Susholtz, who is an artist with Stone Paper Scissors; Steve Satz, who was the volunteer project manager; Greg Sorini, Nan McGraw and the entire University Heights Community Association. This project couldn't have been completed without all of your hard work and dedication!

STOP SIGN AND CROSSWALK INSTALLATION NEAR ALBERT EINSTEIN ACADEMY

I am pleased to announce that our Traffic Division will install two stop signs and crosswalks on Ash Street facing east and west bound traffic, at the intersection of 30th Street, in front of the entrance to the Albert Einstein Academy. The traffic improvements will increase the safety of the students, parents and teachers who frequent the school.



KENSINGTON-NORMAL HEIGHTS LIBRARY SUMMER PROGRAM



The San Diego Public Library's Summer Reading Program "Get a Clue @ Your Library" is in full swing at the Kensington-Normal Heights Library located at 4121 Adams Avenue. As part of this summer's program, the library is offering two free programs in August: the Craig Stone Magic Show on Saturday, August 4th at 10:00 am. and a Drawing and Watercolor class for ages 12 and up on Saturday, August 11th at 10:00 am. The programs are made possible thanks to a generous donation from the "Friends" of the Kensington-Normal Heights Library. I encourage you to stop by the library and take advantage of these wonderful events.

GOLDEN HILL M.A.D. APPROVED

In an hotly contested election of property owners in Greater Golden Hill, the proposed Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) passed by a weighted vote of 53.95%. In all, 1,182 of the 3,570 property owners participated in the election. Also, as part of the election, the Greater Golden Hill Community Development Corporation was selected by the voters to be the administrator of the MAD.

Last month, I noted that the Ethics Commission had advised me to recuse myself from voting at the City Council on the proposed MAD since I live in the community. I requested a formal written opinion from the City Attorney to clarify this matter and was advised that the Attorney agreed with the Ethics Commission. I, therefore, recused myself from the final Council vote to certify the results of the MAD election.

For complete information about specific assessment levels and services to be provided, you may refer to the Assessment Engineers Report which can be viewed online at www.sandiego.gov/cpci

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 26TH ANNUAL ADAMS AVENUE STREET FAIR



The Adams Avenue Street Fair, Southern California's largest free two-day music Festival, will take place on Saturday, September 29th and Sunday, September 30th in the Normal Heights community. This event covers 8 blocks of Adams Avenue and is attended by over 100,000 people each year. The Adams Avenue Street Fair offers

over 70 live music performances on six stages with a variety of music, including blues, rock, world alt, roots-rock, jazz, reggae, zydeco, alt-country and acoustic. In addition, there will be over 300 arts, crafts and food vendors selling their specialty items.

For further information about this exciting event, please contact the Adams Avenue Business Association at (619) 282-7329.

ALDINE DRIVE UPDATE

The plans for the proposed stabilization wall along Aldine Drive will be presented at the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 12th at 6:30pm. The meeting will be held at the Kensington Community Church located at 4773 Marlborough Drive. Staff from the City's Engineering and Capital Projects Department will be there along with the RBF Consulting architects who have been working on this project since its inception. If you would like to preview the design for the project, please plan to attend the meeting.



THE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SOLUTION

People in neighborhoods and communities across San Diego have been talking about supportive housing lately – and what it might mean to solve the issue of homelessness permanently. Supportive housing is permanent, affordable housing linked to healthcare, mental health, employment, and other support services. It is a proven, cost-effective way to end homelessness.



Supportive Housing is another way of saying “home” for people who have been homeless, especially people with disabilities. While a house is just a roof over your head, home is where people care about you and where you get support. And that’s what supportive housing is: permanent, high-quality, affordable housing combined with access to “supports.” Supports for tenants can include connecting them with to counseling, health care, training in basic life skills and jobs – whatever is needed to help them live independently. By providing homeless people with a way out of expensive emergency public services and back into their own homes and communities, supportive housing not only improves the lives of its residents and generates significant public savings, it also has a strong positive effect on our neighborhoods and communities. Here’s what we know about supportive housing in San Diego:

There are already over 700 units of supportive housing in the San Diego region, including national, award-winning projects. Tenants in all of these apartments have leases and pay rent. These properties in San Diego have on-site property management staff to respond to any issues as they arise. They are well-maintained and security enhancements ensure the safety of tenants and neighbors.

It’s designed for people who can live independently. As is the case in all buildings, tenants must be able to comply with their lease, be responsible to their neighbors and are subject to eviction for disruptive behavior.

It has a proven track record of success locally. A recent study found that more than 85% of supportive housing tenants stay housed over the long term. In addition, in San Diego many supportive housing tenants are volunteering in their neighborhoods, contributing to safe and healthy communities. Providers commit to ensuring their properties are well-run and well-managed. Recent studies of communities where supportive housing has been developed found that not one experienced a drop in property values, increased crime or a change in the neighborhood’s character. In fact, supportive housing often has a positive impact on a neighborhood.

It’s cost-effective. Supportive housing costs less than most alternative approaches to homelessness and saves dollars otherwise spent on crisis management.

The Corporation for Supportive Housing highlights that there are approximately 8,600 homeless in San Diego on any given night – with 3,000 living on the street. Supportive housing is recognized as an effective solution to homelessness locally. San Diego’s 10-year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness identifies the creation of **2,000 units of supportive housing** as a key goal over the next 10 years. It is anticipated that up to \$100 million will be available to the San Diego region over the next three years to begin creating these new housing developments – providing a viable permanent solution to ending homelessness.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about supportive housing, please contact Simonne Ruff, CSH, at 619.234.4102, simonne.ruff@csh.org. CSH is a national organization focused on helping communities to create permanent housing with services to prevent and end homelessness. Additional information is available online at www.csh.org.

District Three Neighborhood Meetings

City Heights

Azalea Park Neighborhood Association: Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 2596 Violet Street at 6:30pm. Contact: info@azaleapark.org.

Cherokee Point Neighborhood Association: Meets the fourth Wednesday at 6:30pm, Cherokee Point Elementary School, 3735 38th Street. Contact: (619) 285-1611.

City Heights Community Development Corporation: Meets the second Thursday of each month at 6pm at 4283 El Cajon Boulevard. Contact: (619) 584-1535.

Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association: Meets the third Thursday of the month at 3850 Westgate Place at 6:30pm. Contact: FairmountPark92105@yahoo.com.

Mid-City Rotary Club: Meets every Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm at the Pearson Ford Regional Transportation Center, 4001 El Cajon Blvd.

Contact: Eveardo.Aguilar@sdcountry.ca.gov

South Castle Neighborhood Association: Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm at the Buddhist Temple, 3322 Central Avenue. Contact: (619) 284-3118.

Swan Canyon: Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 3120 Euclid Avenue at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: rebecca@bairfinancial.com.

Teralta Concerned Citizens Association: Meets every 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm at the Fairmount Community Church, 4100 Fairmount Avenue.

Contact: (619)584-2360

Teralta West Neighborhood Alliance: Meets every first and third Thursday of the month at 4283 El Cajon Blvd. at 6:00pm. Contact: (619) 281-3551.

Golden Hill

Greater Golden Hill Community Development Corporation (GGHCDC): Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at the Moose Lodge, 1648 30th Street, beginning at 6:30pm. Contact: (619) 696-9992.

Kensington

The Kensington/Talmadge Community Association: meets every third Wednesday at the Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive, beginning at 7pm. (dinner for a reasonable price is served prior)

Normal Heights

Normal Heights Cultural Council: Meets the third Thursday of each month from 6:00pm-7:30pm at 4649 Hawley Boulevard.

North Park

Altadena Neighborhood Association: Board meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at Santos Coffee at Thorn and 32nd streets. Contact: (619) 280-6662.

Burlingame Neighborhood Association: Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at different locations each month. Contact: dbyrne4bna@cox.net.

North Park Community Association: Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at North Park Recreation Center, 4044 Idaho Street. Contact: info@northparksd.org

South Park

The South Park Action Council: Meetings are held quarterly. For information or future meeting dates, e-mail Co-Chairs: Samantha Keenan at samkeen@cox.net or Connie McDonough at conniemcdonough@cox.net.

Talmadge

The Kensington/Talmadge Community Association (see Kensington)

The Talmadge Community Council (TCC): Meets every third Tuesday at 4725 Lucille Drive beginning at 6:30pm.

University Heights

The University Heights Community Development Corporation (CDC): Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the CDC office located at 4452 Park Blvd, Suite 104, at 6:30pm.

The University Heights Crime Watch and Neighborhood Association: Meets on the first Thursday of the month at Alice Birney School Auditorium, 4345 Campus Avenue. Crime Watch at 6:30pm; UHNA at 7:00pm.

Uptown

Bankers Hill/Park West Community Association: meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm at St. Paul's Community Care Center located at 328 Maple Street. Entry is through the parking lot on the west side of the building. Contact: EucalyptusAlert@aol.com

Hillcrest Town Council and Hillcrest Neighborhood Watch: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Neighborhood Watch meets at 6:30pm followed by the Town Council at 7:00pm at Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Avenue, Uptown District Shopping Center next to Aladdin Restaurant. Contact: nancy@hillquest.com.

District Three

Community Meetings & Staff Information

MONTHLY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Adams Avenue Business Association

4649 Hawley Boulevard Meets the first Tuesday of the month, 7:30am. Contact: 619/282-7329

City Heights Business Association

Board meetings: second Wednesday of every month at 8am at the Metro Career Center Community Room, 3910 University Avenue. Phone: 619/516-2282

El Cajon Blvd. Business Improvement Association

3727 El Cajon Boulevard Meets the third Thursday of the month, 11:30am. Contact: 619/283-3608

Hillcrest Association

Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Ave. in the Uptown District Meets the second Tuesday of the month, 5:00pm. Contact: 619/299-3330.

North Park Main Street

3076 University Avenue Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 7:30am. Contact: 619/294-2501

MONTHLY REDEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

North Park Project Area Committee

California Nat'l Bank, 3180 University Ave., 2nd Floor Meets the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm. Contact: Gayle Richardson, Chair, at 619/291-4833.

City Heights Project Area Committee

Metro Career Center, Community Room, 3910 University Ave. Meets the second Monday of the month, 6pm Contact: Karen Bucey, Chair, 619/957-5818.

DISTRICT THREE STAFF

Denise Price, Chief of Staff.

Dale Kelly Bankhead, Committee Consultant to the Committee on Budget and Finance. Communications Director; LGBT community liaison; HIV/AIDS issues.

April Chesebro, Council Representative to Kensington, Talmadge and University Heights; Constituent Services Representative to North Park, Normal Heights, South Park and Golden Hill; African-American community liaison; Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), homeless and senior issues.

Stephen Hill, Policy Advisor/Council Representative to SANDAG Board, environment, canyon preservation, libraries, land use citywide; Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), water and sewer issues, military/veterans issues; Council docket coordinator.

Pam Ison, Council Representative to City Heights; liaison to Asian/Pacific Islander community; citywide housing and redevelopment; SANDAG regional housing; school liaison and education issues; homeless, women's, youth and health issues; parks and recreation; Chargers/Qualcomm Stadium; Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); newsletter; webpage.

Cheli Mohamed, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Atkins and Chief of Staff Denise Price.

Kim Nguyen, Council Representative to City Heights; Constituent Services Representative to Uptown.

Monica Pelaez, Press Secretary/Council Representative to North Park and Normal Heights; liaison to the Latino community; citywide business issues; Police Department liaison and public safety issues; Fire and Life Safety Services liaison.; newsletter.

Jeffery Tom, Council Representative to Balboa Park, Uptown and Hillcrest; Metropolitan Transit System; Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), infrastructure, arts and culture, energy, telecommunications, BID Council liaison.

MONTHLY DISTRICT THREE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Balboa Park Committee

Santa Fe Room of the Balboa Park Club (Off Presidents Way west of Park Blvd.). Meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:30pm.

Contact: Darlene Davies, Chair: ddavies@mail.sdsu.edu

City Heights Area Planning Committee

Metro Career Center, Community Room, 3910 University Avenue. Meets the first Monday of the month, 6:30pm

Contact: Michael Sprague, Chair, 619/255-7902.

Greater Golden Hill Planning Committee (GGHPC)

Balboa Golf Course Clubhouse, Golden Hill. Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm or the city staff member at 619/533-5284.

Contact: Patricia Shields, Chair, (619) 295-1374.

Greater North Park Community Planning Committee

North Park Christian Fellowship, Second Floor, 2901 North Park Way. Meets the third Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm.

Contact: Vicki Granowitz, Chair, (619) 584-1203, or vdgwrl@aol.com

Kensington/Talmadge Planning Group

Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm.

Contact: Fred Lindahl, Chair, 619/287-3157.

Normal Heights Community Planning Group

4649 Hawley Boulevard. Meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6:00pm.

Contact: Jim Baross, Chair, JimBaross@cox.net

Uptown Planners

Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Ave. in the Uptown District. Meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm

Contact: Leo Wilson, Chair, 619/574-0109.